

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 98-612-C- - ORDER NO. 1999-246
APRIL 7, 1999

IN RE: Petition of e.spire Communications, Inc. and) ORDER GRANTING
American Communication Services of) REQUEST TO SUSPEND
Charleston, Inc., American Communications) PROCEEDING AND
Services of Columbia, Inc., American) CONTINUE DATES
Communications Services of Greenville, Inc.,) OUTLINED IN
American Communications Services of) ARBITRATION PLAN
Spartanburg, Inc. for Arbitration of an)
Interconnection Agreement with BellSouth)
Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to Section)
252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of)
1996.)

JMR

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the request of e.spire Communications, Inc. ("e.spire") and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) to suspend any scheduled future hearings.

On November 28, 1998, e.spire filed with the Commission a Petition for Arbitration whereby e.spire requested the Commission to arbitrate and decide open issues with respect to the negotiation of an interconnection agreement between e.spire and BellSouth. By letter dated March 12, 1999, e.spire informed the Commission that it desired the procedural schedule outlined in the Arbitration Plan to be suspended and all dates established in the Plan to be continued without a date. e.spire also informed the Commission that e.spire and BellSouth have reached an agreement.

Upon consideration of this matter, the Commission concludes that the request of e.spire whereby it requests the procedural schedule outlined in the Arbitration Plan to be

suspended and all dates established in the Plan to be continued without date should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

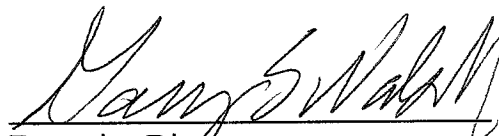
1. The request of e.spire Communications, Inc. for the procedural schedule outlined in the Arbitration Plan to be suspended and all dates established in the Plan to be continued without a date is granted.

2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)